



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **JURY CONVICTS TWO LEE'S SUMMIT RESIDENTS FOR ROLE IN METH CONSPIRACY FOLLOWING INFANT'S DEATH**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Lee's Summit, Mo., residents were convicted by a federal jury today for their role in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

**Wesley J. Durham**, 22, and **Erica J. Duncan**, 23, both of Lee's Summit, were found guilty methamphetamine-related charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 30, 2004, in Kansas City.

Following the presentation of evidence in the **Durham** and **Duncan** trial, the jury in U.S. District Court in Kansas City deliberated approximately seven hours before returning the guilty verdicts to U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner, ending a trial that began May 2, 2005.

**Durham** was found guilty of conspiracy to manufacture and distribute five grams or more of methamphetamine between Nov. 1 and Dec. 12, 2003. **Durham** and **Duncan** both were found guilty of attempting to manufacture between 20 and 35 grams of methamphetamine between Nov. 1 and Dec. 12, 2003, and possessing between 100 and 300 grams of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine on Dec. 12, 2003.

A third co-defendant in this case pleaded guilty on March 8, 2005.

**Bruce E. Williamson**, 45, of Lee's Summit, pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy, admitting that he too conspired to manufacture and distribute between 50 and 150 grams of methamphetamine between Nov. 1 and Dec. 12, 2003.

At the time of the conspiracy, law enforcement officers responded to a call regarding an infant that died upon arrival at the Lee's Summit Hospital on Dec. 12, 2003. While the cause of the infant's death was attributed to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, the investigation into the

infant's death, revealed that a methamphetamine laboratory was being operated out of **Williamson's** residence, where **Duncan, Durham** and their child had been living.

In searching the residence, law enforcement officials discovered numerous items related to the manufacture of methamphetamine, including plastic funnels, several thousand matchbooks, coffee filters, cold tablets, plastic bags, Aphedrid, Naphtha, antihistamine tablets, nasal decongestants, pseudoephedrine, Heet, Acetone, a hot plate, a digital scale, measuring cups, muriatic acid, red phosphorus and Red Devil Lye.

Under federal law, the defendants in this case may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus fines up to \$2 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Joseph M. Marquez and Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department and the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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